# DELTA AREA FORESTRY



(Photo: Moose on the Delta Helicopter-base 2004)

# ORIENTATION GUIDE 2009



The Delta Area is bordered on the south by one of the world's major mountain systems, the Alaska Range. Our eastern boundary runs down the Johnson River and up Sand Creek into the bare ridge tops of the Tanana-Yukon Uplands. Delta's northern boundary is the southern boundary of the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Delta Area extends west to the Little Delta River.

The protection area consists of 3,976,755 acres. The protection levels consist of the following:

Critical: 116,766 acres (3%)\*\*
Full: 1,185,786 acres (30%)\*\*
Modified: 441,449 acres (11%)\*\*
Limited: 1,885,784 acres (47%)
Unplanned\*: 347,560 acres (9%)
\* Military Hot Zones and test sites.

\*\*Acreage adjusted in 2008, approximately 1000 acres moved from Full/Modified into Critical, exact numbers yet to be calculated.

The widely ranging elevations that occur here result in a diverse vegetative and topographical mix. We have everything from the low-lying river bottoms, at about 1200 feet, to the 13,832-foot summit of Mt. Hayes.

Local vegetation varies from the highly volatile Black Spruce to the fire resistant hardwoods, such as: Balsam Poplar, Aspen, and Paper Birch. Extensive stands of Black Spruce can be found intermixed with tussocks and bogs in the lowland flats and on north slopes. White Spruce stands are normally found along the river bottoms and south slopes. Hardwood stands are also found on south slopes and sites with well drained soils. The mountain passes are characterized by stands of stunted white spruce along the slopes up to 3,300' elevations.

The majority (60%) of the Delta Area lays in the upland hill masses that extend to the north and east. A further 30% consists of river valley lowlands that have been developed into a vast agricultural project. The remaining 10% of the area is composed of the Alaska Range to the south.

The mountainous topography along the southern border provides periods of violent weather characterized by extended periods of strong winds. These winds are channeled through the mountain passes and, it is not uncommon for them to be sustained above 35 mph for days on end. These winds induce low fuel moistures and provide rapid rates of spread for any ignitions that occur.

The Delta Area regularly experiences large fire activity. Names such as the Granite Mountain Fire (1954), Goodpaster Fire (1969), Clearwater Fire (1969), Hog Fire (1970), Delta Barley Fires (1979, 1980), Granite Creek Fire (1987), the Hajdukovich Creek Fire (1994), Carla Lake (1998), Donnelly Flats (1999), Sand Creek Fire (2003) and Camp Creek Fire (2004) are now part of the local lore.

Weather during the fire season can consist of extended periods of temperatures in the 70's and 80's with low relative humidities. It is common for large high-pressure areas to establish themselves over Alaska's interior and remain in place for weeks. These periods are often associated with heavy lightning activity with resultant fire activity.

Two agricultural projects present an annual fire problem due to farmers burning to control weed propagation and to dispose of land clearing debris. In addition, many of the local farmers have their fields planted under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The Program pays farmers to leave fields in grass. There are no requirements to cut, or remove the resulting fuel loads. Some of these fields have several years' worth of growth matted down on the ground. These fields represent a fire hazard with high resistance to control.

# DELTA AREA FORESTRY PERSONNEL

#### **ADMINISTRATION**



Al Edgren Area Forester



Steve Joslin Resource Forester



Joanne Singer Admin. Clerk III

#### **LOGISTICS**



Daniel Newby Logistics Coordinator



Steve McCombs WF Dispatcher II



Richard Gardner Maintenance

#### **PREVENTION**



**Bruce Swaim** 

# **OPERATIONS**



Mike Bobo Foreman



**Vacant Position** 



John Gardner WFRT III



Abe Horschel WFRT III



Daniel Zollman WFRT



Brandon Krebs WFRT II



**Vacant Position** 



**Vacant Position** 



Zach Jacobson WF&R Technician I

# Delta Area Forestry **2009**

#### <u>Personnel</u> <u>Position</u>

Area Forester Al Edgren Steve Joslin Resource Forester Joanne Singer Administrative Clerk III Daniel Newby Logistics Coordinator WF Dispatcher II Steve McCombs Richard Gardner Maintenance Bruce Swaim **Prevention Specialist** Mike Bobo Foreman John Gardner WFR Tech III Vacant WFR Tech Abe Horschel WFR Tech III **Brandon Krebs** WFR Tech II Vacant Position WFR Tech Vacant Position WFR Tech Zach Jacobson WFR Tech I Dan Zollman WFR Tech I

#### **DAF ENGINES**

D-61	200 gal	4WD	Type 6
D-62	200 gal	4WD	Type 6
D-71	100 gal	4WD	Type 7
D-72	100 gal	4WD	Type 7
D-73	100 gal	4WD	Type 7
D-31	500 gal	4WD	Type 3
D-32	700 gal	4WD	Type 3
D-33	500 gal	4WD	Type 3

#### **AIRCRAFT**

Helicopter Bell 212 (Evergreen)





#### DELTA FORESTRY AVIATION INFORMATION

Delta Forestry Helibase is located on the northwest side of the Delta Junction Airport (D66) Helipad GPS coordinates 64° 03.15' x 145° 43.78' (64 03 09 X 145 43 47)

**Incoming helicopters**: Contact dispatch on 132.45 (air to ground) 10 miles out. For landing pad information and helibase traffic advisory deck frequency is Forestry Simplex A (151.265).

**Departing helicopters:** Contact Dispatch with flight following information: souls on board (SOB), fuel on board (FOB), estimated time enroute (ETE) and destination.

**Traffic pattern:** Taxi to the edge of D-66 runway use local C.T.A.F. 122.9 for intentions. *Please don't over fly the campground; located 500 feet west; or the Medical Clinic, located 1000 feet north of the Helibase.* 

Fuel: Jet A from 5000 gal. tank to pads 1 through 4

125.3 Eielson Range Control

122.9 Allen Field CTAF

132.45 State Forestry Air to Ground

127.45 AFS Air to Ground

128.45 Statewide Air to Air

166.6375 Tactical Air to Ground

.119.8 Allen Army Airfield Tower

#### **Flight Hazards:**

- Tall towers and bridges check current aviation sectional charts.
- Military air traffic associated with MTRs, MOAs, and bombing ranges.
- Noise sensitive residential area one mile upstream from Tanana River Bridge on the south bank. Avoid flight over this area.
- Several private airstrips in the Delta area.
- Increasing mineral exploration based helicopter operations from pad (2 miles SE)
- Wind farm



# **AIRPORT INFORMATION**



#### Delta Airfield (D66)

Coordinates: N64°03.03' W145°43.04'
Local Traffic: 122.9
Gravel surface
Runway 08/26 2400'
Elevation 1150 msl
Located 800' south of Delta Forestry.



#### Allen Army Airfield (BIG)

Coordinates: N63°59.67' W145°43.30'

Local Traffic: 122.9 Allen Tower: 119.8 Paved surface

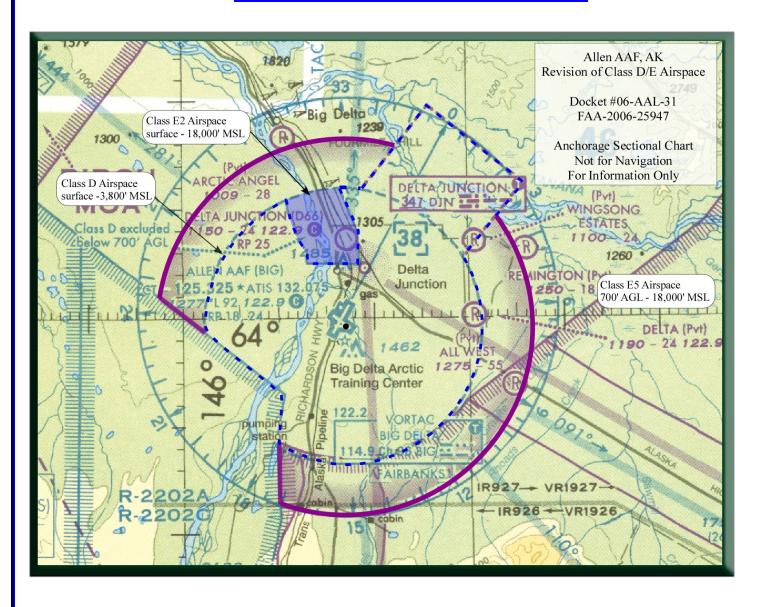
Runway 18 is 7499' Runway 24 is 4647' Elevation 1291 msl

No Flight Service Station (Closed 5/8/93)

No Commercial fuel



# **AIRPORT INFORMATION Cont.**



# **Class D Airspace**

Delta 66 is close proximity to Allen Army Airfield tower. A dialog should be established with the tower.

#### **DELTA RETARDANT SITE INFORMATION**



- Located at Allen Airfield on the western edge of the ramp adjacent to the blue hangar. (see map). Road access is through the main gate of Fort Greely; take the first left after the main gate. This will take you to the blue hangar. The site is about 500' away.
- Retardant is long-term liquid concentrate at 5:1 mix Firetrol- LCA.
- ➤ 8,000 gal tank for concentrate; unlimited water supply
- ➤ No fuel is available at this site
- ➤ Air to ground commo D.A.F. Dispatch 132.45
- Retardant personnel have headsets for commo with A/C

#### **FUEL CACHES**

Dry Creek 63° 40.995' X 144° 36.707' 63 40 59 X 144 36 46

**Keystone Creek 4.0 mile Pogo Road** 

64° 19.551' X 146° 05.470' 64 19 33 X 146 05 20

AIRTANKER JETTISON ZONE 63° 52' X 145° 22'



## LOCAL SERVICES

#### FOOD/LODGING

#### Lodging:

Alaska 7 Motel	895-4848
Alaska Steakhouse & Motel	895-5175
Bunkhouse	895-5422
Clearwater B&B	395-4852
Eagle Ranch B&B	895-5270
Hillcrest B&B	895-5270
Kelly's Country Inn	895-4667
M & M B&B	895-4947
Morgan B&B	895-5096
Tanana Loop Country Inn	895-4890
True North B&B	895-4963
Victorian Inn B&B	895-4636

### Food Service:

895-4814
895-5175
895-9999
895-5089
895-4055
895-5077
895-5152
895-5395
895-4653
895-4814
895-1805
895-4201
895-2250
895-4048
895-4685
895-4938



#### Fuel:

Vehicle fuel is procured at any of the local gas stations with a State of Alaska credit card.

- Jack's Service
- OK Fuel
- Delta Texaco
- Tanana Trading Post
- Delta Petro Wash





# **MEDICAL**

Call 911 for emergencies. For other medical problems call:

Family Medical Center 895-5100

(Dr. Andreassen)

Fairbanks Memorial Hospital (E.R.) 1-907-458-5555

Family Medical Center will generally coordinate air medivacs to hospitals, but these are the phone numbers if they need to be contacted directly:

Warbelow Air (Life Flight) 1-907-474-0518

Alaska Regional Hospital (Anchorage)

Life Flight 1-800-478-9111
Guardian Flight, For Medevac: 1-888-997-3822



